Historical Facts of Cromwell Oil Pool-Wetumka, Okla.

Each year that passes sees some one man that stands out more than the rest end this is especially true of Joseph L Gromwell of Musicoges, Chik, who is the discoverer of the famule Welumka pool, in Hughes county, Okishama.

In the year 1873 or "grasshopper year" just 48 years ago in the little hamlet of Topeka. Kan, Joseph L. Crimwell was been inheriting many of the characteristics of English "from Bides" (fromwell as he grew to be fearless of any undertaking, or any persons that might be involved, e typical American proneer and tuniness man, a good scout and a true stainple of American individ-

At the present time Mr. Cromwell At the present time Mr. Cromwell is residing at Musicogre. Okla., where leader interests are erfored aroung the Hop second, the tale econtinuater of Troop 3. Musicogre, consisting of 33 hops and fire Eastle scouts the son Joseph, jr., is a member of this troop, and it is only natural that Mr. Cromwell should take more than ordinary interest in the sports and work of this spendid examination. His most worthy efforts were his

Which of this sphendid organization. His theat worthy elforts were his operations of the Welliams pool, in Hughes county, which was an uncertain yearisty, which was an uncertain yearisty, he was successful in the constant of the largest atructures in the one of the largest atructures in the obtainous area. Here a new and prolife stratum was discovered which up to his present time has been unknown in any pool and which is entirely due to the efforts of Mr. Gromwell, and it seems to the outsider, that due to the perestent efforts of the discoverer, that this new area should be termed the Cromwell pool and the sand designated the Cromwell and.

the "Cromwell sand."

Unlike most discoveries of a new and prelific territory, Mr. Cromwell was not left with enly a few seattered acres of land to remay him for his pioneering efforts but retains large holdings independently, aside from his interest with Dr. J. C. Wilhoit and the trairie Oil & Gas Co, throughout Hughes and Seminole counties, Oklahema, and these will keep him busy developing and operating for years to come.

Mr. Cromwell, has counties on

Mr. Cromwell has royalites on both of the 5-8-10, and 15-10-8, attractures, and as large an interest as any other individual owner in a 3.400-acrs tract with Doctor Wilholt and the Prairie oil & Gas Co. He also has from one-half interest to four-fifths interest in 800 acres around the big Cosden & Co. gas well, and another 400 acres in leases on another untested structure in that same locality.

First Venture a Success.

In that same locality.

First Venture a Success.

Mr. Cronwell first embarked into the oil business in the year 1912, his initiaal test being drilled near the town of Inola, in Rogers county, which resulted in a paying venture. Five wells were all told drilled which proved productive and later the property was sold and netted quite a handsome figure on the amount invested. After disposing of this property he located a structure in Marshall county upon which was drilled a shallow gasser.

While operations were progressing in the Healdon pool, Mr. Cromwell predicted that the scutheast direction offered the best bet for larger production and future operations here out his statement. He also worked out several localities in Commanche and Stephens counties and upon his recommendation tests were drilled which resulted in paying ventures.

The Earliest Wildcatter.

The Earliest Wildcatter. The Earliest Wildcatter,
About four years ago, when the
new Ranger and Burkburnett pools,
in Texas, were calling the Oklahoma
operator across the Oklahoma-Texas
state line, and a large number of
them heeding the call, this man
wore out a pair of mules and two automobiles surveying the virgin country comprising the northern portion
of Bushes rounty and the authors try comprising the northern portion of Rughes county and the southern portion of Okfuskee county, Oklahoma. He was a practical geologist, and had already established a name for himself by his record in Rogers county. Oklahoma.

At that time there were few roads worthy of that name in those parts of Hughes and Okfuskes counties, and this pictures.

of Hughes and Olchuskes counties, and this pioneer suffered many hardships and mishaps. In April, 1919, after having vibiled the Gladys Bell Oil company, Cromwell and Graves well in 18-8-19. In Hughes county which developed a 10,000,000-cubic fact gas flow at a depth of 1.935 feet, which really made it the pioneer gasser of that location can be regarded as a part of this district.

Cromwell was on his way home end when he arrived at the bridge ecross Salt creek, he stopped and wandered down the creek bottom. Here Cromwell, well versed in "rock hound lors," had discovered the outcrepping of the rock and his experienced eye indicated the presence of a good structure, which might er might nor obtain oil.

His was curious to know just what

right nor obtain oil.

He was curious to know fust what the possibilities of structure were and he traversed the county, found satisfactory dips and then decided he was on a dome of exceptionally large possibilities.

After becoming well satisfied with his findings, Cromwell returned to Muskogree and began to look around for assistance in mapping and detailing his new find distributed that time a young geologist had hung out his shingle there, he had come here as a residence manager of the Circonwood Oil company. Previous to his present conmanager of the Greenwood Oil company. Previous to his present connections he was in the employ of the Empire Gas & Fuel Co. in its geological department. Quiet, sensious and like the majority of the Trock hound that he majority of the Trock hound of his "adverse to publicity, his presence and advent into his lines of work here failed to create a ripple—and here it may be said that his popularity now is wave high—but he attracted by the fact of his work a chestage made loyal by results attained, and it was to him. M. K. Read, that Mr. Gromwell gravitated and outlined his new discovery.

Make Mays of Structure.

Mr. Gromwell and Mr. Read then

Make Maps of Structure.

Mr. Cronwell and Mr. Read then
surveyed the original find. Mr.
Cromwell guiding Read to the far
outskirts of the structure as he had
found it. Mr. Read also recommendeit the Cosden location, on the Cromwell structure. It might be said in
passing that reports on this Cromwell structure made by 38 geologists
of the major oil concerns, individuals and geological firms in and out
of the state differed only in a slight



Joseph I. Cromwell, of Muskogee, Okla.

detail from the original survey and mapping by Read.

Detail work finally completed. Cromwell started out on an active lease campaign with the one thought in mind to secure if possible every available acrossage on his structure. Almost unsurmoustable obsacles. available acreange on his structure. Almost unsurmountable obstacles beat against this ambition, and not the least of these was competition of least of these who, not knowing just exactly what was in the air, had determined however, to "get in" on whatever it was and attempted this by offering fabulous sums to the farmers and handholders.

Pioneer Work Difficult.

Disagreebule weather, the unpassable conditions of the highways persistent lease grafters, knocking lack of proper finance and poorhealth, did much to make his mission a tiresome one, but Cromwell fought untiringly towards his ambition and inside of a few months had amassed a total of some seven thousand acres of leases. He had under lease at that time every acre mapped on his structure, with the exception of one 40 acre tract, which was under lease to the Gillispis interests.

Working night and day with a full-blooded interpreter—Felix P. Canard, of Wetunika, at his side, as two-thirds of the lenses wers Indian lesses. Cromwell at the end of the fourth day after his discovery had better than four thousand acres blocked out and lessed. Seven of the local landowners of Wetunika contributed part of their holdings to the drilling of the first test. Martha E. Gregory, the widow who owns the southeast of 5-9-10, contributed 120 acres, retaining 40 acres, which was afterwards sold for a bonus. Others who contributed 120 acres. Part Williams. James Porter, 12. D. Hall, Thomas Ryan Harry E. Chowins, and K. V. Lucas.

The remaining 4,000 acres of

The remaining 4,000 acres of leanes were bought and paid for by Mr. Cromwell and E. L. Graves, a lawyer and land itle man of Muskuges, the prices ranging from \$1 to \$10 per acre. Then came months of vain effort in trying to get the larger companies interested appared in the vain effort in trying to get the accompanies interested enough in the



Felta P. Canard, Pall-blood Creek Indian Interpreter of Wetumka, Okla.

discovery to drill a test well on the block. Finally Dr. J. C. Wilholt, of Kansas City, and Mr. Janeway, of Tulsa, Okla., came to his rescue and drilled a test in the northeast corner of the southwest of 4-9-10, for a half interest in a block of 2.500 acres. This resulted in a gas well at a depth of 1.207 feet, Well was drilled in the northwest corner of 3-9-10 and was one of the most interesting tests so far drilled in that locality. At a depth of 750 feet there was a showing of 8.000,000 cubic feet of gas from a total of 54 feet of pay. A sand from 1.380 to 1.407 feet there was a showing for 18.000,000 cubic feet of gas, which was braden headed off. At 2.135 feet a 35-foot and was penetrated, the crude testing better than 23 degrees Raume.

For this second test the above par-ties contributed additional acreage and Doctor Wilholt directed the drilling of the, well under the Cecil Grundy syndicate.

Grundy syndicate.

Blocks More Acreage.

During the same month tas discovered first structure; after completing the lensing of the structure he had made a similiar trip through wildcat territory to find a structure in the vicinity of Arbeka Springs, in Okfunkee county, but upon Investigation, traced the area in township 19, range 8, where he located the structure in 15-18-8, indications for a pool of premise also called Mr. Cromwell's attention and he immediately started lensing, getting close to 400 acres on his first attempt.

After securing the leases he again attempted to interest some of the

After securing the beases he again attempted to interest some of the larger cencerus to drill a test, but was unsuccessful. With a full determ, lation to interest someone somer or later be sarred out trying to increase his leaseholds. This work was sturied on December 21 and on March 19, 1921 he had sequired a sufficient amount of acreage and a test was started by the Cosden Oil & Gas Co. in 15-8-19, which resulted in a 28,009,000-cubic foot gasser, with a rock pressure of 1,425 pounds—wei gas.

The pressure of this well was so great that drilling deeper was impossible and ever since November 20

this well has been making gas. The volume is being used to drill two ennounced to further test the structure with its possibilities for oil, it is the intention of the Coaden Oil & Gas Co. to deepen its strike as soon as the pressure has been reduced.

Form a Partnership.

Then on December 31, 1921. Dr.
J. C. Wilhelt and Joe I. Cromwell,
principal owners of the acreage on
the Wetumka structure, entered in
to a drilling contract with the Prail
rie Oil & Cas Co. at Independence, to
thoroughly test out their holdings.
They contracted for four deep tests
free to the owner as consideration. free to the owner as consideration for an undivided one-half interest in the 3,200-acre block .

the 3,200-acre block.

This was the third attempt of contribution of acreage that Mr. Cromwell had made from his original block of leases, making a larger contribution of acreage than any one holder of the block.

First Test a Big Off Producer.

The initial test of the Prairie Off & Gas Co. resulted in an oil producer at approximately 3,330 feet in an unidentified sand. The nearest producing well to the new discovery was six miles, it being the Mid-West pool, 11 miles southwest of the Lyone-Quinn and Deaner developments. This well was located in the ments. This well was located in the southeast of 5-9-10 and had an initial production of 720 barrels at only a foot in the pay sand, No. 2 on this lease in 4-9-10 is now nearing the sand and its completion is being awaited with unusual interest. There are now 18 offsets and adjoining wells being drilled near the

discovery.

Prairie Makes a Splendid Contract.

About a year ago Mr. Cromwell and Doctor Wilhoit managed to get the Prairie Oil & Gas Co. Interested in the proposition. The Prairie evidently was converted because that big concern agreed to drill four wells on the Cromwell structure in return for a half interest in \$,200 acres. The block originally consisted of approximately five thousand acres, but some of it had been sold off at the time of the drilling of the first test.

Success Brings a Breakdown.

sand sores, but some of it had been sold off at the time of the drilling of the first test.

Success Brings a Breakdown.

After closing the deal with the Prairie Oil & Gas Co., Mr. Gromwell whose health is none too rugged in spite of the outdoor work he is compelled to do; was forced to spend several months at a Michigan health resort in an effort to recuperate from the hard toil, worry and mental strain of the past few months. The obstacles that he had surmounted in blocking up the vast tracts of acreage, and financing the carrying of the leases over a period of more than three years, would have daunted many a younger and stronger man. More than \$25,000 was paid out in rentals alone—and this is a lot of money for an individual to spend marely on hopes and the conviction that they are right.

Going a Little Deeper.

Something like luck also played a part in the bringing in of the initial producer. The contract depth was \$2.200 feet. When the contractor had reached that depth, the formation was black shale under \$240 feet of hard lime. He asked the Prairie offices for orders and was told to go another 100 feet. At \$3.300 feet, the formation was the same. So, on his own responsibility, it is said, the centractor decided to keep pessing along for a while in the hope that the formation would change. And it did change—at \$3.30, where it started flowing at the rate of between five hundred and six hundred barrels a day. This was harely in the sands. A few days ago the well was drilled around \$3.33 feet and started off at around \$3.34 feet and started off at around \$1.200 barrels. Indications are that the pool will cover a considerable area, as the exhowing thus far encountered in the Prairie test in 4-9-10 are reported to be much more favorable than those found in the discovery well.

ported to be much more favorable than those found in the discovery well.

Friends of Mr. Cromwell, knowing of his years of tireless endeavor, and realizing that he has been a square shooter throughout the entre struggle, are endeavoring to have the structure near Wetumka known as the Cromwell pool.

Henorable Bealings With Indians.

Mr. Cromwell has had a great many years of personal dealings with the Indians of this state, having been connected with the Indian agency office at Muskogee for five

Mr. Cromwell has had a great many rears of personal dealings with the Indians of this state, having been connected with the Indian agency office at Muskogee for five years, where he was associated with J. George Wright and Dana H. Kelsey. He has leased many thousands of acres of land from the Indians throughout Oklahoma, being aided in conversing with them by Felix P. Canard, and is credited with never having made any misrepresentations, or permitting liquors to be used as giffs or bribes in his dealings with any of the various tribes.

While in the empley of the government at the Indian agency Mr. Cromwell took his own course in geology, through much study and careful reading of geological works and government reports. He spent all his leisure hours in study of this kind, instead of carrying on social activities, and this knowledge has thus proved to be invaluable to him in discovering and giving to the world, the above great oil pools.

Much Credit Due This Wildestier.

A man singly and alone who pioneered an unknown district, discovered and properly located two geological structure, one in township 10, range 10 at Wetumka, where the Prairie-Wilholt-Cromwell wells are flowing forth their hinden oil and where the Cosden well in township 10, range 8, gushing its 30-300,000 cubic feet of gas; personally leased and properly handled and cleared away many complex questions of Indian land titles; performed his part in financing five different projects in the effort to test the structures for oil and gas and succeeds from the test after meeting all leases and title obstacles has so endeared himself to American lovers of fair play that they adjudge him an award of credit justly fitting.

Therefore, his host of friends throughout Cklahoma and the oil operators in the Mid-Continent field conclude that inasquich as oil and gas are now groducing from the structure discovered and located by Mr. Cromwell at Wetunka in an unidentified sand at 3.30 feet that these aroas be designaled the Cromwell pools as a reward for the hum